

LEFT VENTRICULAR CONDUITS TO CORONARY ARTERIES AND METHODS FOR CORONARY BYPASS

Abstract of the Disclosure

Left ventricular conduits and related methods are disclosed for achieving bypass
5 of a partially or completely occluded coronary artery. More broadly, conduits for
allowing communication of bodily fluids from one portion of a patient's body to another
and related methods are disclosed, including conduits for forming a blood flow path
from a chamber of the heart to a vessel or from one vessel to another. In other
embodiments, the conduits achieve a coronary artery bypass by allowing blood
10 communication between the left ventricle and the coronary artery or between a proximal
portion of the coronary artery and a distal portion of the coronary artery. The conduits
may be placed completely through the heart wall or extend only partially therein.
Conduits may take on a variety of configurations for allowing the control of blood flow
therethrough, including curved or tapered shapes. The conduits may also follow a
15 variety of paths, including direct transmyocardial communication between the left
ventricle and the coronary artery, or through the myocardium and into the
intrapericardial space and then into the coronary artery. The conduits may be implanted
through a variety of methods, including minimally invasive techniques. Also disclosed
are various preferred embodiments of medical devices and related methods for
20 implanting the conduits including rigid delivery rods for penetrating bodily tissue. The
delivery rods may be solid, thus being trocar-like, or hollow to form a self-implantable
conduit. Other preferred rod embodiments may have the conduits mounted thereon and
take the form of a stylet or the like. The conduits may be one-piece, continuous
conduits or made up of a number of plural sections joined together. Disclosures of
25 various anastomosis devices are provided.

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